

## The Proceedings of the Society during the year 1927.

*By the courtesy of the Proprietors of the local Press we are able  
to insert the following accounts:*

**ANNUAL MEETING.** The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on Thursday morning, June 9th, 1927, in the Norwich Guildhall, and in the afternoon the members made an excursion to the Weston and Heydon districts. The acting President (Mr. J. H. F. Walter) occupied the chair at the outset of the meeting. Mr. W. R. Rudd was present as General Secretary, and Mr. B. Cozens-Hardy as Excursion Secretary.

The General Secretary (Mr. W. R. Rudd) presented the Annual Report of the Committee, which will be found in this volume.

Mr. J. H. F. Walter, in moving the adoption of the Report, mentioned that the survey of the Church Plate of Norfolk was not yet completed, there being a large slice of the county still unfinished. The Fincham Deanery and the Marshland Deanery had been handed over to the Diocese of Ely; but he maintained that as the churches of these areas were in Norfolk they must be included in the present survey, which he wanted, if possible, to complete this year. Continuing, Mr. Walter said he fancied one of the churches on Elm Hill was used as an emporium for storing furniture. The church at the top of the hill had a good many of its windows broken, and old furniture, he believed, partly occupied the church at the bottom. Whether the clergy received any money for these churches he did not know, but he believed they did. They really ought to see that the roofs were put into good order and the monuments not allowed to lapse into decay.

Mr. T. Keppel seconded the motion, and the Report was adopted.

Miss Colman, in nominating a President for the ensuing year, said Mr. L. G. Bolingbroke was to have submitted the name of their new President, but to his great regret he was unable to be present. The members of their Society did not look upon the President as a mere figurehead. He was called upon to carry out a great many duties, and certainly in the last two Presidents

Mr. Walter and Prince Frederick, they had had men of great ability. All greatly regretted the death of Prince Frederick. The name she had to submit and which she was sure would meet with every approval was that of Mr. R. Ferrier, of Yarmouth, who had done a great deal for archæology in that borough, and had been of much assistance to the Parent Society. Mr. Ferrier would bring to the work great knowledge of business ability and the Society would find him a worthy successor to the Presidents who had gone before.

Major H. E. Evans-Lombe seconded, and the nomination was heartily agreed to.

Mr. Ferrier, upon taking the chair, thanked the Society for the honour conferred upon him, and remarked that it would be his earnest endeavour to follow his predecessors, especially Prince Frederick and Mr. Walter in maintaining the high prestige and traditions of the Society.

The Vice-Presidents were re-elected as follows:—The Earl of Orford, the Lord Bishop, Mr. E. M. Beloe, Mr. L. G. Bolingbroke, Miss Colman, Miss H. C. Colman, the Rev. G. H. Holley, Mr. H. N. Holmes, the Rev. W. H. Hudson, Mr. J. C. Tingey, Mr. J. H. F. Walter, and Sir Eustace Gurney. On the motion of the Rev. G. H. Holley, the Dean of Norwich was added to the list.

Mr. L. G. Bolingbroke was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. W. R. Rudd Hon. General Secretary. In moving the re-election of Mr. Rudd, the President said it was difficult to express their thanks to that gentleman for the immense amount of work he had done in connexion with the Society. For many years he carried out the onerous duties of Excursion Secretary as perfectly as it was possible to do. When Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard died he was appointed General Secretary, and since that time had made the best interests of that Society his first thought in life.

Mr. G. A. Stephen moved the re-election of Mr. Basil Cozens-Hardy as Hon. Excursion Secretary.

Mr. Rudd, who seconded, said he knew the work which Mr. Cozens-Hardy had done and how well he had done it. When one saw how easily things went one was apt to forget the lot of work which had to be performed beforehand and the arrangements which had to be made to ensure evenness of working.

The motion was cordially agreed to.

Mr. F. H. Barclay was re-appointed Auditor. Mr. A. R. Powys, the Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, was elected an Hon. Member of the Society.

The retiring members of the Committee, Mr. F. H. Barclay, Mr. H. O. Clark, Major H. E. Evans-Lombe, Mr. E. A. Kent, and Mr. R. H. Teasdel were re-elected, and the Rev. E. C. S. Upcher and the Rev. W. B. H. Chandler were added to that body.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Walter, the retiring President, for his past services, Mr. Stanley Wearing said he had recently received a letter from Mr. A. J. Munnings, R.A., about the Boar's Head Inn, and remarking that he was afraid it would have to go before long. He (Mr. Wearing) replied that the Boar's Head was not likely to go, and that it had recently been thoroughly overhauled and given a new life by Mr. Cecil Upcher, who had tackled his job in a brilliant way. Mr. Upcher had preserved both inside and outside, a delightful old building. The President seconded the motion, which was warmly agreed to.

Mr. Walter, in reply, said he fully endorsed all that Mr. Wearing had said about the Boar's Head.

#### THE EXCURSIONS.

Mr. B. Cozens-Hardy was able to arrange three excursions during the year. An afternoon excursion followed the Annual General Meeting on June 9th.

The first place of call was the interesting Church of All Saints at Weston Longville, which now enjoys an added attractiveness by reason of its association with the Rev. James Woodforde, the famous diarist. The Church is of flint in the Decorated and Perpendicular styles, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave, aisles, south porch, and western tower. There are three stone sedilia in the chancel and some remains of ancient stained glass. A large altar stone or slab, marked with five crosses, was, in 1880, when the chancel was restored, removed from the nave and placed under the altar table. The rood screen dates from early in the 15th century. The Rector, the Rev. Edward Clark, M.A., by whom the party was received, pointed out that in the massive tower there are clearly signs of a former building, and that elsewhere there were tiles and other material which seemed to have been taken from a prior church and worked into the present one. A very fine old door had been spoilt by repairs. On the wall was a bit of mural painting representing our Lord as the True Vine with traces of the Twelve Disciples, a relic unearthed by the former Rector, Mr. Norris. Weston had been fortunate in having families which had lived there for centuries, including the Rookwoods, who were there for two hundred years, and then the Custances, who were there for two hundred years more. And now the Custances had gone, and the whole character of the place was changed. A piscina behind the organ seemed to indicate that once upon a time there was a Lady chapel.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Reepham is built of flint in the Decorated style. It consists of chancel, nave, aisles, south porch, and an embattled tower on the south side. In the chancel is a brass with effigies to Sir William de Kerdiston, died

1391, and Cecilia (Brewes), his wife, and there are other brasses bearing date 1527, 1577, and 1608. By far the most remarkable antiquity in the Church is the altar tomb of Sir Roger de Kerdiston, died 1337, who is shown in effigy lying on a bed of stones. The figure is armoured. The legs are crossed. The head is covered with a bascinet, from which a camail descends over the shoulders. The right hand is laid on a sword hilt. The sides of the tomb are arcaded and have standing effigies of relatives and children as mourners. Why the knight should be lying on a bed of large pebbles has greatly puzzled the antiquaries. The Rector, the Rev. D. H. Moore, M.A., said nobody seemed to know what the bed of stones meant. An explanation offered to him by an antiquary whom he had consulted was that the knight was probably a wanderer. The ironwork of the vestry door was very beautiful indeed, but there seemed to have been people in the past who did not value it at all, for a great part of it had vanished. The tower was slightly older than the rest of the Church. In the vestry was a beautiful Elizabethan chalice with its cover. The earliest register dated from 1583.

The President (Mr. Ferrier) said there was a similar tomb to that of Sir Roger de Kerdiston at Ingham. The fact that they were both resting on pebbles might indicate that the knights were shipwrecked.

At Salle Moor Hall the party were received by  
 SALLE MOOR Mr. and Mrs. Edward Stimpson. Mr. B. Cozens-  
 HALL. Hardy read the following paper:—Norfolk has certainly its share of large ancient halls, chiefly of the 17th century, such as Blickling, Melton, Barningham, Breckles, and Heydon. It luckily possesses in addition an unusual number of lesser halls, often now occupied as farmhouses, which in mediæval days were the headquarters of the manors or lordships, in which this county was singularly rich. Such an one is Salle Moor Hall, which we are inspecting to-day through the kindness of our fellow-members, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Stimpson.

Judging by the size and magnificence of its Church, Salle must once have been a more populous parish than it is to-day. Wool and weaving, no doubt, gave it prosperity and a high birth rate, but the wattle and daub cottages in which the industry was carried on failed to withstand the march of time like the freestone and flint of the Church and the flint of the larger messuages, which alone survive here to remind us of a more prosperous epoch. Just as Moorfields and Moorgate in the Metropolis tell of the rough country which once adjoined the City of London, so Salle Moor indicates that there must have been a stretch of uncultivated rough bruery land near by. A little to the east is a district called Reephram Moor, which bears like testimony. Faden's Map, the first reliable survey, of 1797, shows about a mile to the north

an area of unenclosed land, roughly 500 acres in extent, called Salle Forest, and there is still a Forest Farm. I think, therefore, we may say that the name of this Hall is derived directly from its position on the edge of an ancient forest. In the pasture near by you will see some very fine old oaks, which from their size I judge to have been planted or sown before, say, the Peasants' Revolt of 1381, and certainly before the present Salle Church was built. These veterans are all that is left of the forest, where the Bulwers, the Kerdistons, and the Hobarts may well have once hunted the wolf and wild boar and flown their hawks.

There appear to have been five manors in Salle, or six, if we include Stinton Hall, which, however was once a separate township. Our information about the Manor of Salle Moor Hall is meagre, and there is little that can be added to what Blomefield tells us. It belonged to Matthew FitzHerbert in 1340, and in 1361 was conveyed to William Clere, a member of a well-known Norfolk family seated at Ormesby and Blickling, which eventually came to grief. They were connected with the Bulleynes or Boleyn, one of whom, James Bulleyne, certainly owned it in 1552 as a rental I have here testifies. A little later in that century it belonged to Sir Thomas Knivett of Ashwellthorpe, and afterwards it came to the Hobarts of Blickling. It was subsequently owned by the Hunts, ancestors of one of our Vice-Presidents the Rev. George Hunt Holley, and eventually, after being in the ownership of the Palgrave and Woodcock families, it was acquired by the father of our host.

Original documents make history more real. I have found amongst papers belonging to our Society three taxation lists of the 17th century dealing with the Hundred of Eynsford and this Parish of Salle. We are apt sometimes to assume incorrectly that taxation is the baneful privilege of these later days. The first document is a list of all the people in this hundred and parish who paid ship money in 1637 "for the providing and setting forth one shipp of warr of the Burthen of 780 Tunnes for his Majesty's service by the County of Norfolk, the City of Norwich, and the Corporacons within the same county." You will recollect that it was the collection of this unwise tax which was one of the causes of the Civil War. The second document is a list of those who paid hearth tax in the village about 1682 on the number of hearths in each house. One had to pay 1s. per hearth. Salle Moor Hall had six hearths and paid 6s. The last document is a list of those who paid window tax in 1696. If one occupied a house one had to pay 2s. If it had more than nine windows one had to pay 6s. tax; if more than nineteen windows 10s. tax. This house had more than nineteen windows, so its occupier paid 10s. I think a large window counted as two in certain cases. These taxes were very unpopular, and it was stated that after

William III. landed and was making his progress to London, one of the chief requests of the crowd which gathered along the route was that he should see that the hearth tax was repealed.

The structure of the building is puzzling, and without the expert assistance of Major Glendenning I should not venture upon the following suggestions about how the building assumes its present shape and aspect. Roughly, I think, the main walls can be dated about 1500. In corroboration of this I may point to the large-faced, but not squared, flints, with chips inserted in the mortar. This treatment is very similar to Cley Old Hall, which belongs to that period, and the south aisle of Weybourne Church, which is late Perpendicular. Furthermore, in the north gable of the house there is a very interesting stone mullioned window, the style of which indicates the date I have suggested. It is just possible that this window may have been taken years ago from the ruined church at Kerdiston and inserted here, but I think it is unlikely.

The front of the house has obviously been altered in the latter half of the 17th century, and all the windows were doubtless like the bedroom windows at the present time. Major Glendenning tells me that tall windows, divided into four lattice lights by a mullion and a transom, occur in houses in Norwich, dated 1652, and the original windows at Raynham Hall, for example, were of this type. In many cases, as at Raynham, they were replaced a few decades later by sash windows occupying the same opening. To sum up the transition of the windows: First, these may have been stone mullioned windows like the one you will see in the north gable. These were then displaced by some similar to those on the first floor, and subsequently the ground floor windows have been inserted.

The north gable, with its elaborate brick chimney stack, appears to be undisturbed Tudor brickwork. The bricks are of a hard quality and have a rather rough facing; they vary in length and thickness. In those days bricks were roughed by treading out lumps of unwashed clay on straw into a layer and chopping it up roughly to size with a knife or spade. Later they were made strictly to size by means of box moulds. The porch is puzzling, and is obviously an addition, probably of the date of the staircase.

The crest in brickwork, which appears five times on the building, is particularly interesting. It is "a bull's head coupéd," which is the crest of the Bulleyes. This confirms the ownership by that family. Is it too fanciful to picture the ill-fated Ann, the mother of Queen Elizabeth, paying a visit here to her kinsman, James Bulleyne? It should be noted that heraldically the bull is facing the wrong way. It ought to face to the right. Possibly the artificer copied from a signet ring itself, and not from the impression. With regard to the stone mullioned window, up till

a few weeks ago it was almost entirely blocked up. I persuaded Mr. Stimpson to unblock it, and in so doing he has revealed the fact that it is double the size that it was thought to be. Probably it was half blocked up when the larger windows were inserted in front and later on completely obscured, owing to draught.

There are one or two features in the interior which are worthy of remark. There is a fine dignified Jacobean straight staircase immediately on entering the hall. This probably replaces an oak spiral staircase, the top of which still exists. The drawing-room has a beautiful ceiling with a geometrical pattern in oak. This is continued, curiously enough in a small room on the south, but not in the intervening room. The cupboards and doors are interesting. One of the latter opens from the exterior by a cord passing through the door.

Like so many of our old Norfolk houses, the Hall is moated. The moat still exists on the north and west, but it has been filled in on the south. There are still traditions of a pike having been shot in the moat which once ran beneath the walnut tree on the lawn. Finally, may I express our satisfaction and relief that an ancient building like this is in the keeping of one who really appreciates the workmanship of bygone ages.

Next the party visited Colonel E. A. Bulwer's remarkable collection of antiques at Heydon Grange and then, after taking tea at the Parish Room, passed on to Heydon Hall, where they were received by Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Granville Duff. Heydon Hall, equally with the Grange, is intensely interesting for its pictures and antiques of the Stuart and Commonwealth periods. Col. E. A. Bulwer read an address on the subject, recalling that Brigadier-General W. E. G. L. Bulwer was a former President of the Society, whose members had been received at Heydon in 1900. The visitors, because of their number, were divided up into sections according to the alphabetical order of their surnames, and were then shown over the house.

A second excursion took place on July 14th. Thorpe Hall was first visited, the party afterwards going on to Potter Heigham, Ludham, and Wroxham.

At Thorpe Hall the archæologists were received in his ancient and delightful home by Major Cubitt, who, despite his great age, took a keen interest in the proceedings, and welcomed his guests with much cordiality. He also shewed and described to them many rare treasures in his house.

In a paper on Thorpe Hall, Mr. Ernest A. Kent said he congratulated the Excursion Secretary on bringing them here, for few of them, he thought, had ever had the opportunity of seeing that most interesting old hall at close quarters.

We have, too, quite a complete history of the site of this house as far back as before the Conquest. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury, was Lord of Thorpe in his own right, and held it as a lay fee. On his degradation, William the Conqueror seized it and granted it to Ralf de Guader, Earl of Norfolk, and a Norfolk man born. After the rebellion of this Ralf, his flight, and the surrender of the Castle by Emma, his countess, under stress of famine in 1087, this Manor, with his other possessions, reverted to the Crown. Then Herbert de Losinga, formerly Prior of Fecamp, in the year 1094 obtained from William Rufus part of the Manor of Thorpe to build his Cathedral upon, for you will remember that the Cow-Holm in Bishopgate was then a pasture belonging to that Manor. The way was then open for Bishop Herbert to transfer his bishopric from Thetford to the vicinity of Norwich. Henry I. on the 3rd of September, 1101, granted the rest of this Manor to Bishop Herbert and to the monks of the Church of Holy Trinity, and Bishop Herbert gave the best part of Thorpe to his convent. In 1236 William de Raleigh, then Bishop, and Simon the Prior agreed that the part of Thorpe Wood covered with oaks should be divided into two equal parts: that the part nearest to the Manor House of Thorpe should be to the Bishop, and the other part, nearest to the Bishop's Bridge, should be to the Prior, and "halfe Thorp Meadows on both sides of the water" should be to the Prior, saving to the Bishop his right to the said bridge, and that two-thirds of the heath nearest the Bishop should be his, and one-third the Prior's, &c.

In 1412 we get the first mention of the powerful family of the Pastons in connexion with Thorpe, for then William Paston was Steward to the Bishop for all his manors in Norfolk. In the next century, in 1535, William Rugg (or Reppes), Abbot of St. Benet's at Holm and Bishop of Norwich, resigned all the property of the See to King Henry VIII., retaining the Abbacy and its properties, which still belong to the Bishop of Norwich, and who, it is said (but I think erroneously), holds his seat in the House of Lords as Abbot of St. Benet's at Holm rather than as Bishop. In 1543 Henry VIII. granted the Manor of Thorpe to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, for life, and remainder to Henry, Earl of Surrey, and his wife, Frances; and, Earl Henry being attainted and executed, the latter surrendered it to Edward VI. In 1547 Edward VI. granted it to Sir Thomas Paston (5th son of Sir William Paston, of Paston, in Norfolk); he married Agnes, daughter and heiress of Sir John Leigh, of Addington, in Surrey. Sir Edward Paston, son and heir of Sir Thomas Paston, born 1550, died 1630, was Lord of the Manor of Thorpe in 1571; his second wife was Margaret, daughter of Henry Berney, Esq., of Reedham; he built the centre part of this Hall. Sir Edward Paston's son, Thomas, died before his

father, leaving a son, Clement, who was living in 1646, and whose son, Edward (born in 1629, and who died 1714), was the last of the Paston family that held the Manor of Thorpe and Thorpe Hall.

By the year 1670 the estate had passed, by purchase, to Rowland Dee, merchant, of London; he was of the family of Dr. Arthur Dee, whose father had been Dr. John Dee, "the mathematician" and author of the *Astrologie of her most sacred and illustrious Majestie Queen Elizabeth*. That Queen is said to have known the book by heart, and to have been in the habit of quoting from it. By 1720 Duncan Dee, Sergeant-at-law, son of Rowland Dee, had sold this Hall to Matthew Howard, Gent., of Hackney. How the estate became divided must be passed over. From the Howards part or whole of it went to the Veres. In 1753 Thomas Vere, Esq., was the owner of the Hall, and presented Richard Humfrey to the Rectory. Sir John Vere, his son, died in 1790.

From the Veres it passed to the Chutes. From the Chutes to Sir Roger Kerrison, of Brooke, Norfolk. From Sir R. Kerrison this house and some land passed, by purchase, to John Harvey, Esq., who had married his daughter, Frances Kerrison. John Harvey, of Thorpe Lodge, banker and merchant, will be known to some of us from his portrait by Opie in St. Andrew's Hall, and from his inclusion in Jos. Stannard's picture of Thorpe Water Frolic at the Castle. He, in 1838, gave this house with five acres of land to his daughter, Harriott, who was then the wife of Captain Thos. Blakiston, R.N., the first Treasurer of our Society. His daughter, Bertha Harriott, married our kindly, gallant, and honoured host, Major Frank Astley Cubitt, who, we are glad to say, still remains here, as a nonagenarian, to welcome us to his beautiful old home.

This is the history of the site. As to the building, matters are not so clear. What sort of house or palace the early Bishops possessed here we can only guess at. It commanded this beautiful stretch of the river, which I need hardly remind you is the old river, the new cut not having been made until 1844. Some early foundations have been found, but never explored. There were gardens and three fish-ponds, of which one now remains. Probably the earliest existing building is that of the Bishop's Chapel, which has a fine cross on its western gable, and its piscina can be found among the rockwork. The mouldings of the two doors of this chapel agree very closely with that of the door in the north wall of the Suckling House in Norwich, to which a date of 1380 has been assigned by competent authority. This being so, I am inclined to assign this part to Bishop Henry de Spenser (1370 to 1406), the "fighting bishop." He it was who overthrew the "levelling" insurgents in 1377 near the cross of North Walsham, where they made their last desperate stand; and he it was who captured their leader, John the Litester or dyer, condemned him, shrived him, and hanged him. The Bishop had been bred up

a soldier, and had at this time offered to serve Richard II. abroad with 3000 men-at-arms and 2500 archers well horsed and accoutred. In 1383 he raised several regiments and transported them to Flanders to support the cause of Pope Urban against the anti-Pope Clement, in which he took many strong towns by assault and gained a signal victory over 30,000 men. Here he dwelt when peace allowed him, coming up from the staithe in the Cathedral Close in his gaily painted barge with rowers to the staithe still existing here.

This chapel has the remains of five Decorated windows and two doors, and I should also be inclined to assign the extremities of the two wings of the present house to the same date, c. 1380, although I cannot feel sure as to this. The whole building would then form a quadrangle, with a defensive wall and gate on the western side. Then Sir Edward Paston, in about 1590, pulled down the centre portion, this being probably of one storey only, and built the present mullioned front on the east and north sides and angle, having his staircase just behind the modern porch on the north side. At a subsequent time, probably in that of its occupancy by the Howards in the 18th century, the staircase was moved to its present rather odd position in the middle of the east front (the entering of one bedroom through another being then thought "ungenteel"), and the roof of that portion was renewed and slightly lowered. There have been other and more recent alterations, but these I need not specify. In the dining-room you will see in the centre of the chimney-piece the arms of Paston in stone, while on the left are the arms of Sir Thomas Paston and Ann Leigh, and on the right those of Sir Edward Paston and Margaret Berney. You will also notice the beautiful carved Tudor oak wainscotting. These arms and some fleur-de-lys are also on the stone chimney-piece in the kitchen, that room having been part of the original great hall, at the south end of which ran the entrance passage through the house.

Mr. Kent prepared two plans, one showing the relative positions of the buildings of Thorpe Hall, and the other the wide extent of this important Manor when it belonged to "Mr. Paston" in 1585. Incidentally it showed where Kett's Reformation Oak was and other matters of equal interest. It was a copy from part of a map in the Record Room at the Castle. In the hall was a long Sepoy musket, which would remind them, said Mr. Kent, that this weapon, with its narrow square shoulder-piece, was brought by their host from India before most of us were born. The days of the Indian Mutiny seem far away, so I make no apology for reminding you that our gallant host assisted in the Relief and the final capture of Lucknow under the brave Havelock, and holds the medal and two clasps as his Sovereign's recognition of his services.

And now you are to have another privilege.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK. It is 199 years since John Kirkpatrick, the archaeologist, died. It was known there was an oil portrait of him, although it was not certain where it was, and it is in this house where it is to be seen. Major Cubitt has been good enough to take it down from his staircase and has put it for your delectation in a better light in his dining-room. The portrait shows you what you might expect—a face strong in purpose, cultivated in character, high in resolve, and kindly in heart. On it is written “John Kirkpatrick, born 1686, an antiquarian and merchant of Norwich, married youngest daughter of John Harvey, Esq., who died 1742.” He was a linen-draper of St. Andrew’s Street, Norwich, and Treasurer of St. Helen’s Hospital. He published a large “Prospect” of the city, now exceedingly rare. He gave a silver cup for the Mayor’s use, still among the city’s regalia. He was buried in St. Helen’s Church, where there is a black marble slab to his memory. He died childless at the early age of 42. To quote from his tombstone, “He was a man of sound judgment, good understanding, and extensive knowledge; industrious in his own business, indefatigable in that of the Corporation, in which he was constantly employed. He died, very much lamented by all who knew him, on the 20th day of August, 1728.” Francis Blomefield himself says that to his labours he was exceedingly obliged, which if he did not acknowledge “in this publick manner” he would inwardly condemn himself as guilty of the highest ingratitude. Kirkpatrick by his will presented his books, MSS., coins, &c., to the Norwich Corporation. It will be useless for me to speculate as to where these are now and who “borrowed” them, but their loss is irreparable; fragments of them at odd times turn up in all parts of the country. Dawson Turner relates that a number of the MSS. were safe in the custody of the city in 1815 when Mr. Elisha de Hague was Town Clerk, but after that none of them, except the *History of the Religious Orders in Norwich and of the Castle*, purchased of a bookseller, and edited by Dawson Turner in 1845, and *Some Extracts from Corporation Records and Papers of the late John Kirkpatrick*, contributed by Robert Fitch, and published by our Society in a volume called *The Gates of Norwich* in 1861, have ever been published. A transcript of one of his manuscripts made during Kirkpatrick’s lifetime by Mr. Anthony Norris, and called *Streets and Lanes of the City of Norwich*, was printed by our Society in 1889.

Mr. B. Cozens-Hardy said they had all heard with interest Mr. Kent’s eulogy of the famous Norwich antiquary, John Kirkpatrick. He was pleased to say that in consequence of a suggestion made to Major Cubitt, he had after consultation with his eldest son, Sir Bertram Cubitt, until recently the Secretary of the War Office,

decided to present the oil painting of Kirkpatrick to the City of Norwich. The Archæological Society and the citizens generally would be deeply grateful for the gift.

Major Cubitt said he was only tenant for life. His son readily agreed with his (Major Cubitt's) suggestion that the picture should be conveyed—if the Lord Mayor would have it—to the Corporation to be placed either in the Museum or among the portraits of other civic dignitaries.

Mr. Ferrier (President of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society) expressed grateful thanks to Major Cubitt for allowing them to see his beautiful house, with its features of historical and antiquarian interest. The Lord Mayor and Corporation would, of course, refer publicly to the gift to be made to them.

A description of the main features of interest in Potter Heigham Church was given by the Vicar, the Rev. L. Meadows White. He referred to the ancient pottery which gave it name to the parish. A pottery had been there as far back as the Roman occupation of Britain, at which were manufactured sepulchral urns for containing the dead. Funeral urns were found in Norfolk. They were made from clay, and presumably the factory was at Potter Heigham. In those days Hickling Broad did not exist. The site of the pottery was a field called Pothills Field, on which were once mounds of ashes and potsheds "as big as a cottage." These had been levelled on an enclosure of land. There existed to-day an old man, said the Vicar, who remembered the levelling of those mounds. There was an altercation between two persons, one of whom "hulled" some Roman ashes in the other's face. The pottery industry was carried on right down to the Middle Ages. A remarkable font in the Church was obviously a specimen of their work. The chancel of the Church dated from 1200. The roof was modern. The figures on the screen were very fine, although somewhat dilapidated. There was a very fine nave of the 14th century, with a 15th-century hammer-beam roof. The clerestory had been put on without any regard for symmetry. The Vicar also called attention to some mural paintings—notably a fine head in the south aisle—and to the 14th-century octagonal belfry. They were about to re-point the tower, and were endeavouring to raise £100 for the purpose.

At Ludham Church the archæologists were received by the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Knight, who described its chief points of interest. The Church was dedicated to St. Catherine, the virgin martyr of Alexandria, who, said the Vicar, was always depicted in art with her wheel and crowned—tradition said she was martyred on a wheel. He thought there could not be much doubt that there was a church there from very early times, in view of its

connexion with St. Benet's, which dated from Canute's time, about 1017. The Church was a rectory up to King John's time, for during a vacancy at the Abbey the King appointed Robert de Gloucester to the Rectory in 1214. Some time after this it was made into a vicarage. Mr. Knight thought Canute granted the Manor of Ludham to the Abbot of St. Benet's as part of his barony, and presumably from that date, 1017—1027, to the present time the Abbots of St. Benet's had been lords of the manor, which title was still held by the Bishop of Norwich. The oldest part of the Church was the chancel, which was placed as late as the 14th century. In the 15th or 16th century the Church was enlarged to its present dimensions. With the exception of the Parish Church at Yarmouth it was the largest in the district. It was most likely enlarged to accommodate the numerous retainers belonging to the Abbey, as was the case with Horning Church. It had been suggested that perhaps the most interesting thing in the Church was the painted rood in the tympanum of the chancel arch. It was a picture of the Crucifixion with figures grouped around the Cross. These paintings, although once common, were now rare. After the Reformation they were taken down or covered over as being idolatrous. This one was first covered over with canvas, upon which the Royal Arms of Elizabeth were painted; it was now on the reverse side. At some later period the boards were taken down and hidden in the stairs leading to the rood loft, where they were discovered in 1890, when they were collected and replaced in their original position. If the tympanum was the most interesting, the screen was the most beautiful thing they had in the Church. Its preservation had been wonderful, for it was erected over 400 years ago. The upper part, including the rood loft, had been destroyed, but enough remained to show how beautiful it must have been when first put up. The nave was in the Perpendicular style. The roof was a good example of hammer beam. Every alternate spandrel was in the form of a toothed wheel, representing the wheel on which St. Catherine was martyred. The font was of exceptional interest for its quaint figures and splendid carving.

The party took tea at the Swan Hotel, Horning. A general meeting of the Society was held there, at which no fewer than nineteen new members were nominated and accepted.

Wroxham Church was next visited, an account of which was given by the Rev. D. Davies, Vicar of Salhouse. Apart from the Norman doorway, its archaeological interest is rather limited, and as for the stained glass, the Vicar was frank enough to remark that the less said about it the better. The panelling in the pulpit was said to be Elizabethan.

The third excursion, on September 1st, was of a more ambitious character, and included visits to several of the beautiful churches

and villages of Mid-Suffolk. This field of exploration was new in the sense that the members in their corporate capacity had never been there before, but anything but new in the antiquary's meaning of the term. Lying well away from the main lines of traffic there are in the sister county many delightful antiquities that have managed to escape both the ravages of time and the tasteless attention of the rabid modernist. The chosen route, which must have taken a lot of preliminary survey and careful working out, embraced no fewer than six places of call.

Before noon they had reached Lavenham, a parish which in point of picturesqueness and flavour of the mediæval might challenge comparison with any other place of its size in the Eastern Counties. Lavenham's Church and Guildhall, the latter justly famed as the finest half-timbered building in England, might easily be regarded as the crown of the journey. From there a short run to the south-westward brought the party to Long Melford Hall and Church. A call having next been made at Kedington Church, which lies in the near neighbourhood of Haverhill, the party took tea at Bury St. Edmund's, whence they regained contact with the railway by picking up an evening express at Stowmarket.

The party comprised a hundred and sixty. They were headed by the President, Mr. R. F. E. Ferrier. Mr. W. R. Rudd was present in the capacity of Honorary Secretary, and Mr. Basil Cozens-Hardy as Honorary Excursion Secretary. At a suitable opportunity Mr. Rudd made a feeling mention of the losses the Society has sustained by the deaths of Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, Mr. J. H. F. Walter, and Mr. Leonard G. Bolingbroke. It was announced that several new members had joined.

Kersey, the first place of call, is a small parish which is supposed to have given its name to the fabric known as kersey, said to have been first manufactured there in the days when Mid-Suffolk was the scene of a considerable textile industry. The Church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands nobly perched on a hill. It looks down upon a village street that cannot have altered much in its main features for at least a hundred and fifty years. The Rector pointed to many of the curious features of the Church, quoting an authoritative opinion to show the successive stages by which it had evolved in all probability from a small thatched church of the 12th century.

But that it lies deep buried in the countryside, and, except to the motorist, is not easy of access, Lavenham should be a place of pilgrimage to everyone who has a grain of antiquarian sense. It would be hard to mention any other parish in the Eastern Counties so redolent of the past. It would not be excessive to claim that there are more mediæval

houses huddled together there than in any other place in England, houses thatched, heavily timbered, and grouped with a picturesqueness that delights the eye at every turn—"the faintly pargetted Priory, the Guildhall, the idyllic meadow and pool behind the Church, the Church itself, which is considered by many to be the finest of its period in Suffolk, and is a legacy from the rich and pious wool merchants and the cloth weavers who flourished there in the 15th century." An excellent feature of contemporary Lavenham is that its parishioners are proud of their home. Such is the force of public opinion that whatever restoration becomes necessary is done with a due regard to fitness, and there has been little intrusion of a discordant modernism. Mr. F. L. Ranson, a leading and enthusiastic townsman of Lavenham, received the visitors at the incomparable Guildhall, and later showed them some of the older houses, including the extraordinarily beautiful house in which Jane and Anne Taylor lived, and in which, "Twinkle, twinkle, little Star" was written. The Church, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, is a splendid edifice of Casterton stone intermixed with flint. It was built between the years 1485 and 1525 by the De Veres and Thomas Spring, a rich clothier of Lavenham. The Bishop of the Windward Isles, who is doing temporary duty at Lavenham, gave an address on the subject, setting out with the remark, which no one present would have cared to dispute, that Lavenham Church ranks among the most beautiful parish churches in England.

LONG  
MELFORD  
CHURCH.

Arrived in the spacious parish of Long Melford, which spreads itself picturesquely around one of the finest village greens in Suffolk, the party visited the Hall, which is the seat of the Rev. Sir William Hyde Parker, Bart., and then spent an instructive hour at the Church, an edifice of such beauty and varied interest that a book might be written about it. It is a magnificent example of the late Perpendicular style. Traces of old mural paintings are still discernible, piscinæ denote the sides of six former altars, and in the wall of the north aisle is a sculptured representation in alabaster of the offering of the Magi, removed to its present position from beneath the floor, where it was discovered buried. Numerous monuments commemorate the Martyn, Clopton, Cordell, Parker, and other families, of which the most notable is that to Sir William Cordell, Knight, ob. 1580, Speaker of the House of Commons, Privy Councillor in the reign of Philip and Mary, and Master of the Rolls during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This, which is of alabaster and coloured marbles, has six columns supporting a canopy which contains the knight's shield of arms in the centre, and beneath the recumbent figure--in armour--of the knight himself. The canopy panels each contain a cockatrice, which was Sir William's crest, and in the recesses

are four female figures in representation of the cardinal virtues. The Martyn Chapel in the east end of the south aisle contains an ancient altar tomb of Purbeck marble, generally supposed to have originally enclosed the remains of Lawrence Martyn, ob. 1460, and his two wives. The Clopton Chapel is notable for an imposing recessed mural tomb to Sir William Clopton, which contains his effigy in armour, in close proximity to it a fine brass effigy of his wife, Margery Francys, who died in 1424. Near the entrance to the Clopton Chapel is a small apartment evidently built for the use of a priest, with an elaborate carved stone ceiling, a fireplace, and a small window, which has now been blocked up. The chapel itself has a double hagioscope with traces of a painting of the Virgin and Child, and round the cornice of the four sides of the chapel is a carved scroll with black letter verse inscriptions attributed to John Lydgate, a disciple of Chaucer. The Lady Chapel, access to which is given by a door on the south side, dates from 1496.

The final call of the day was made at Kedington Church, which is peculiarly rich in point of recumbent effigies and other memorials. The Barnardistons are thus commemorated as far back as 1503. The chancel is divided from the nave by a carved oak screen dated 1619. Adjoining the screen still remains the canopied family pew of the Barnardistons, which is of very fine carved oak.

---

CORRIGENDA TO PART I., VOL. XXIII.

REPORT OF EXCURSIONS.

Page iii. July 26th should be August 26th.  
 " x. July 27th " " August 27th.  
 xiv. July 23rd " " July 22nd.